THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The text of this question refers to reply given on 6th March, 2002 to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 661. Perhaps the Hon'ble Member intended to refer to his Unstarred Question No. 2561 replied on the 17th April, 2002.

At present demands for inclusion of as many as 32 more languages (including Dogri) in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India are pending with the Government. The Government have decided that a suitable criteria needs to be evolved for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule as no criteria has been laid down in the Constitution of India.

The issue of evolving criteria for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule was referred to the "National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution" for consideration. The National Commission has since submitted its report to the Government but the National Commission have not made any recommendations on this issue. Therefore, it has been decided by the Government to constitute a High Powered Body for laying down a criteria for inclusion of additional languages in the Eighth Schedule. The question of inclusion of more languages including Dogri in the Eighth Schedule would be considered in accordance with the criteria so evolved.

De-silting operations by MCD

2277. PROF. R. B. S. VARMA:
SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a larger number of Government quarters in Sector-7, R. K. Puram, New Delhi were flooded with rain water on 29th May, 2002 due to non-de-silting of storm-water drains and non-laying of new drain pipes in the area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether de-silting operations of MCD have not been undertaken in the area for many years and the plan to lay new drain-pipes have not been initiated leading to water logging and drain water overflowing throughout the year; and

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The storm water drains are designed to a specific carrying capacity and on occasions when there is excessive rainfall, the water in these drains overflows resulting in temporary water-logging especially in low-lying areas. the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has, however, completed the process of de-silting of storm water drains in Sector-7, R. K. Puram to enable the drains to carry rainwater to their full capacity.

Paucity fo drinking water in R. K. Puram

2278. PROF. R. B. S. VARMA:
SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is paucity of drinking water in R. K. Puram (Sector-7), New Delhi and residents are forced to buy water from tankers to meet their essential needs; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to tackle the problem of water scarcity and address the related issues including making available of the basic amenities to the residents of the sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in some of the houses situated at the extreme tail-end of the distribution system, the water pressure was comparatively low. The position has now improved to some extent by the replacement of the old 40 Horse Power pump by a new 60 Horse Power pump in the Booster Pumping Station situated opposite Sector-7, R. K. Puram, New Delhi. Besides, when there is any disruption in supply of water to such houses, Delhi Jal Baord supplies water through tankers, free of cost, on demand.

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2279. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up a full - fledged